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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SECRET

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[redacted] a report on the Hungarian State Eötvös Lorand Geophysical Institute in Budapest. It contains information on the departmental organization, on the names of the department chiefs, on the Institute's work on seismometers, seismographs and magnetophones, and on the export of equipment to Czechoslovakia and Communist China.

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Geophysical Institute, BUDAPEST

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1. The Geophysical Institute (ORTVOS LORAND GEOFIZIKAI INTEZET) is situated at BUDAPEST, Voroshilov Ut. 99. The head of the Institute was DOMBOI Tibor, [redacted] Until 1954 the Institute was subordinated to the Ministry of Mines, but was then transferred to the control of the Directorate of Geophysical Research.

2. The Institute was divided into six departments:-

(a) Seismic Department. Head - GALFFY Janos.

[redacted]

(b) General Department. Head - STEGENA Lajos.

(c) Magnetic Department. Head - FACSINAI (fnu)

(d) Electricity Department. Head [redacted]STYEN Karoly.

(e) Registration of Earth Tremors [redacted] - BARTA Gyorgy.

(f) Gravitation Department. Hea[redacted]HAZ Istvan.

3. There were no Russian advisers attached to the Institute.

4. The General Department (see para. 2(b) above) was divided into three sub-departments:-

(a) Geochemistry. Head - BERGH Arpad.

(b) Geothermic. Head - HORVATH Gyula.

(c) Physics Laboratory. Head - KOCH Gyorgy.

5. The Principal task of the Geothermic Department (see para.4 (b) above) was the construction and maintenance of seismometers and seismographs which were used principally in oil prospecting. The seismometers and seismographs were based entirely on current [redacted] models.

6. In addition a considerable amount of research was carried out jointly by the Seismic and the General Departments on the development of a

/magnetophone .....

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magnetophone in connection with its use for the prospecting for oil, coal and minerals. This particular research was completed by October 1956 but the general use of the magnetophone in the field for prospecting was prevented by the outbreak of the Revolution in October 1956.

one magnetophone cost about 2,000,000 florints to construct and an unspecified Hungarian firm was engaged on manufacturing them for export to CZECHOSLOVAKIA and CHINA. One magnetophone was used by the Institute.

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7. The method of using the magnetophone for prospecting was as follows:-

The magnetophone which was carried in a van, was connected to ten seismometers by cables. A charge was then detonated at an unspecified distance from the seismometers and the latter registered the shock waves and transmitted them to the magnetophone which recorded them on a 10 cm. wide paper tape. A violent oscillation in the waves would indicate the presence of an abnormal stratum, i.e. oil or coal, etc. The team operating the magnetophone was, however, able to calculate from the readings produced on the tape, the location on the ground where test drilling should be made to ascertain the exact nature of the deposit.

8. No prospecting for uranium was carried out by the Geophysical Institute.